



General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
**Joint State Government Commission**  
Room 108 Finance Building, 613 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
717-787-4397

Released: September 30, 2022

---

**Short summary in response to Act 53 of 2021**  
**Report of the Task Force on Child Pornography**

---

The Task Force on Child Pornography reviewed 18 Pa.C.S. § 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children) to ascertain inadequacies relating to the offense of child pornography. It was chaired by the executive director of Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and included designees and appointees, who, collectively, have the background and experience to discharge its powers. Accordingly, recommendations were made to improve the investigation and prosecution of child pornography. During its deliberations, the task force reviewed state statutes and practices along with policies and procedures relating to the recognition or prosecution of child pornography.

Original, relevant Pennsylvania data was collected and analyzed by the staff of Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency for the task force. Law enforcement officers and prosecutors in Pennsylvania were surveyed for feedback responsive to this project. The task force had presentations from some of its members as well as others to cover the practices and outcomes as these crimes move from investigation to conviction and afterwards.

The report covers the statute, Pennsylvania data, victims, investigation, prosecution, and post-conviction and other relevant considerations. It concludes with the task force's recommendations and extensive appendices. Recommendations include revisions to statutory terminology; increased funding for resources for investigators and law enforcement; improved training and resources for county probation departments; improved training for judges and prosecutors regarding the Sexual Offender Assessment Board; and improved training for judges and prosecutors regarding the use of sentencing enhancements.

**Find us at**

**Website:** <http://jsg.legis.state.pa.us>

**Publications:** <http://jsg.legis.state.pa.us/publications.cfm>

**Podcasts:** <http://jsg.legis.state.pa.us/podcasts.cfm>, <https://jsgc.buzzsprout.com/>  
or search "Joint State Government Commission Podcast"  
on your favorite podcast app.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Joint-State-Government-Commission-875463459201928>

**Twitter:** @JointStateGovt